

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00 PM-04
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03
H-01 /066 W
-----010409Z 013912 /20

R 312248Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3821
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1719

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UN, US, UR
SUBJECT: CHARTER REVIEW

REF: A) STATE 094777; B) STATE 086263

1. AT SUGGESTION SMUN US MISOFFS MET WITH FOKINE (USSR DEPUTY PERMREP) AND SMUN MISOFFS TO DISCUSS CHARTER REVIEW MAY 24.
2. FOKINE OPENED BY QUERYING AS TO EFFECT OF AMENDMENTS TO S.1190 PROPOSED BY SENATORS MCGOVERN AND BAKER ON APRIL 28 AND WHETHER US STILL AGREED WITH SOVIETS ON BASIC ISSUES REGARDING CHARTER REVIEW.
3. FOKINE SAID SOVIETS WERE DISTURBED OVER VOTING WHICH HAD TRANSPIRED AT RECENT SESSION AND MIGHT HAVE TO RECONSIDER THEIR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMITTEE. HE ASKED WHETHER THE US MIGHT BE LIKEWISE INCLINED.
4. MISOFFS SAID WE HAD NO OBJECTION DISCUSSING ANY OF THESE ISSUES WITH USSR BUT WONDERED WHY SOVIETS HAD DEPARTED FROM QUADRIPARTITE (US, UK, FRANCE, USSR) FORMAT FOR THESE
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DISCUSSIONS. WE EXPRESSED A PLAIN PREFERENCE FOR QUADRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING SO WELL IN RECENT YEARS ON THIS AND CERTAIN COMMITTEE SIC (LEGAL) ISSUES.

5. MISOFFS DECLINED TO COMMENT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION. WE RECALLED THAT US IS ON RECORD IN GENERAL AS BEING OPEN MINDED WITH REGARD TO SUCH AD HOC CHANGES IN THE

CHARTER AS PROVE CAPABLE OF BROAD SUPPORT AND CITED OUR ROLE IN ECOSOC EXPANSION. WE NOTED THAT WITHIN CONTEXT OF CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE AND ITS POTENTIAL DYNAMICS, OUR SUBSTANTIVE POSITION WAS, NEVERTHELESS, CLOSE TO THAT OF THE USSR.

6. MISOFFS STATED WE BELIEVE SOVIET TACTICS AT 1977 COMMITTEE SESSION HAD BEEN OVERLY RIGID AND CITED THAT VOTING AT THE END OF THE SESSION ON THE PROCEDURAL QUESTION OF REPRODUCTION IN THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT OF THE MEXICAN PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE WORK AS SOMETHING WHICH WOULD NOT HAVE TRANSPIRED BUT FOR SOVIET INFLEXIBILITY. WHILE RECOGNIZING IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO CAUSE THE LARGER SHARE OF BLAME FOR THE VOTE TO FALL ON SUCH EXTREMISTS AS MEXICO, ALGERIA AND TUNISIA, THE EPISODE HAD BEEN COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FROM US POINT OF VIEW AND, IN OUR OPINION, SOVIET VIEWPOINT AS WELL. WE CAUTIONED SOVIETS THAT THEY NOT TAKE FOR GRANTED THAT OUR CONTINUING DESIRE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM IN CHARTER REVIEW CONTEXT WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO CAUSE US TO GO ALL THE WAY WITH COUNTERPRODUCTIVE HARD-LINE TACTICS.

7. WITH REGARD TO FUTURE PARTICIPATION IN COMMITTEE, WE SAID WE SAW NO BASIS FOR RECONSIDERING OUR PARTICIPATION IF MANDATE REMAINED SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT. WE SUGGESTED SOVIETS BEAR IN MIND THAT NONE OF THE FOUR NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE ON ORDER BAR AMENDMENTS SINCE OUR "VETO" COULD, ULTIMATELY, DO THAT. OUR PARTICIPATION WAS IMPORTANT IN ORDER TO AVOID THAT KIND OF SHOWDOWN WHICH WOULD LEAD TO JUST THE WEAKENING OF THE CHARTER REGIME THE SOVIETS CLAIMED TO BE SEEKING TO AVOID.

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IM FOKINE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OUR COMMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PERHAPS SOVIET TACTICS HAD BEEN TOO RIGID AND NEEDED RETHINKING. HE EXPRESSED HOPE WE COULD CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER ON THIS ITEM. HE SAID THE USSR HAD NO PROBLEM WITH RETURNING TO QUADRIPARTITE FORMAT AND SUGGESTED NEXT MEETING BE ON THAT BASIS. HE HOPED WE DID NOT RULE OUT OCCASIONAL BILATERAL EXCHANGES AS CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRED. WE ASSURED HIM WE DID NOT.

9. WE HAVE FILLED FIFOOT (UKUN) IN ON DETAILS OF CONVERSATION AND WILL DO LIKEWISE WITH FRENCH AT EARLIEST CONVENIENT OPPORTUNITY.

10. COMMENT: CONVERSATION WAS CORDIAL AND FOKINE CLEARLY WISHED TO CONVEY RELAXED COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE WHICH INCLUDED TAKING SERIOUSLY OUR COMMENTS ON OVERLY RIGID SOVIET TACTICS. TIME WILL TELL WHETHER THEY TAKE THEM TO HEART. IT MAY WELL BE THAT DEPARTURE OF MALIK AND INFLUX OF SMOOTHER SOVIET

OPERATORS SUCH AS TROYANOVSKY AND FOKINE MAY LEAD TO
CERTAIN AREAS TO LESS RIGID SOVIET TACTICS -- TO OUR
BENEFIT ON THOSE ISSUES ON WHICH WE CAN COOPERATE.
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, REORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN01719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770194-0336
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977051/aaaaaaha.tel
Line Count: 120
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b01ec486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 94777, 77 STATE 86263
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2311238
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHARTER REVIEW
TAGS: PORG, US, UR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b01ec486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009